

# SWGFAST

## Glossary - Anatomy

### **BALL AREA**

The large cushion area below the base of the big toe.

### **BRACHYDACTYLY**

Abnormal shortness of fingers or toes.

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### **BULB OF FINGERS (THUMBS, TOES)**

The portion of the friction skin on the tips of fingers, thumbs, or toes in the distal phalanx, from one side of the nail to the opposite side of the nail.

### **CALCAR AREA**

Area located at the heel of the foot.

### **CARPAL DELTA AREA**

Area of the palm containing a delta formation nearest the wrist.

### **CREASE**

A line or linear depression; grooves at the joints of the phalanges, at the junction of the digits and across the palmar and plantar surfaces that accommodate flexion.

### **DERMABRASION**

A technique using chemicals, wire brush, surgery or lasers which can cause either temporary or permanent loss of ridge detail.

### **DERMAL PAPILLAE**

Peg-like formations on the surface of the dermis.

### **DERMIS**

The layer of skin beneath the epidermis.

### **DIGIT**

A toe or finger.

### **DISSOCIATED RIDGES**

Disrupted, rather than continuous, ridges; an area of ridge units that did not form into friction ridges.

### **DISTAL**

Farthest away from the center or point of attachment. The direction away from the body.

**DUCT**

A tube or canal that delivers secretions or excretions.

**DYSPLASIA**

Ridge units that did not form complete friction ridges due to a genetic cause.

**ECCRINE GLANDS**

Sweat glands that open on all surfaces of the skin.

**ECTRODACTYLY**

Congenital absence of all or part of a digit(s).

**EPIDERMIS**

The outer layer of the skin.

**FETUS**

For the human species, the unborn individual from about the end of the second month of development until birth. Earlier stages are termed embryo.

**FIBULA**

The smaller of the two bones in the lower leg on the little toe side.

**FIBULAR AREA**

The plantar area situated on the little toe side of the foot.

**FINGER**

See *Phalange*.

**FRICITION RIDGE**

A raised portion of the epidermis on the palmar or plantar skin.

**FULCRUM AREA**

The area between the thumb and index finger on the palm.

**HALLUCAL**

A region which corresponds to the distal thenar and first interdigital region of the palm.

**HYPERDACTYLY**

See *Polydactyly*.

**HYPOTHENAR AREA**

The friction ridge skin on the palm, below the interdigital area on the ulnar side of the palm.

**INTERDIGITAL**

Palmar area below the fingers and above the thenar and hypothenar areas.

**MACRODACTYLY**

Congenitally abnormal largeness of fingers or toes.

**MEDIAL**

At or near the center.

**MOTTLED SKIN**

Ridge detail is present, but is dissociated due to trauma or genetic causes. It lacks any continuous pattern flow.

**ORTHODACTYLY**

Fingers and toes cannot be flexed.

**PALM (PALMAR AREA)**

The friction ridge skin area on the side and underside of the hand.

**PALMAR ZONE**

The interdigital area of the palm.

**PAPILLAE**

Peg-like structures of the dermis.

**PAPILLARY RIDGES**

Orderly rows of eccrine glands positioned along the path of the friction ridge.

**PATHOLOGY**

The study of causes, nature, and effects of diseases, trauma, and other abnormalities.

**PATTERN FORMATIONS**

Friction ridge skin arrangements formed as early as the third month of gestation.

**PENTADACTYLY**

The occurrence of five fingers or toes on a hand or foot.

**PHALANGE (PHALANX)**

A finger or toe, with proximal, medial and distal segments. Any bones in the fingers or toes.

**PLANTAR AREA**

The friction ridge skin area on the side and underside of the foot.

**POLYDACTYLY**

A hand or foot having more than the normal number of fingers or toes.

**PORES**

Small openings on friction ridges through which body fluids are released.

**PROXIMAL**

Situated at the closest point of attachment; direction toward the body.

**RADIAL**

The smaller of the two bones of the forearm, on the same side as the thumb.

**RIDGE (FRICTION)**

See *Friction Ridge*.

**RIDGE APLASIA**

Congenital absence of friction ridge skin.

**RIDGE DISSOCIATION**

See *Dissociated Ridges*

**RIDGE DYSPLASIA**

See *Dysplasia*

**RIDGE HYPOPLASIA**

Underdeveloped ridges associated with an excess of creases.

**RUDIMENTARY RIDGE**

See *Secondary Ridge*

**SCAR**

A mark remaining after the healing of a wound.

**SCARF SKIN**

Dry or dead skin which has scaled and peeled away from the surface skin.

**SEBACEOUS GLAND**

An oil-secreting gland generally associated with a hair follicle.

**SKIN**

The outer covering of the body consisting of the dermis and epidermis.

**SPLIT THUMB**

Thumb that has conjoined distal phalanges.

**SYNDACTYLY**

Refers to webbed fingers. Side-to-side fusion of digits.

**SYMPHALANGY**

End to end fusion of the phalanges of the fingers or toes.

**THENAR AREA**

The large cushion of the palm located at the base of the thumb.

**TIBIA**

A bone in the lower leg.

**TIBIAL AREA**

The plantar area situated on the big toe side of the foot.

**TRAUMA**

Injury or damage.

**ULNA**

The larger of the two bones of the forearm, on the palmar side of the little finger.

**VOLAR**

Related to the palmar and plantar surfaces.

**VOLAR PADS**

Palmar and plantar fetal tissue growth that affects friction ridge skin development and patterns.

**VOLAR SKIN**

See *Friction Skin*.

**WEBBED FINGERS**

Two or more fingers connected along the sides by skin.